

MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission

DATE, TIME AND

PLACE OF MEETING: Wednesday, March 27, 2002, 8:00 a.m., Room 106, County-City Building, 555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS AND OTHERS

IN ATTENDANCE: **Members:** V.J. Nelson, Jeff Searcy, Kim Todd, Jim Hewitt, Karen Kilgarin and Tom Laging

Others: Bob Ripley (DAS Staff), Lori McClurg (DAS Director), Jerry Shorney (Parks & Recreation), Owen Yardley (UNL Police), Ed Zimmer and Missy Minner (Planning Dept.)

STATED PURPOSE

OF THE MEETING: Regular Monthly Meeting of the Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission

Approval of the meeting notes of February 27, 2002 -

Meeting notes were approved 4-0; Nelson, Hewitt, Laging, Searcy voting 'yes'; Todd, Kilgarin and O'Donnell absent..

Application for certificate of appropriateness for installation of lights on Centennial Mall between P Street and R Street, requested by University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Yardley indicated that this application was brought about by an attempted sexual assault earlier this winter that occurred about 75' south of R Street on the east side of the Mall. This is an area that has no lighting and at that time the vegetation was overgrown. This provides a place for transients and other people to hide. The vegetation and some of the dilapidated benches have since been removed in an attempt to address the safety concerns. They are proposing temporary lighting to further address the safety issue. The temporary lighting solution, wooden poles with cobra head lights, would not require underground trenching and would cost approximately \$850 per pole for installation. His discussion with LES explored the installation of lighting similar to R Street. That would raise the cost to about \$4,000 - \$5,000 per pole. The UNL police are bringing this application forward because it addresses the safety problem in the area.

Ripley suggested that luminaries similar to those that were tested south of the capitol be used. He added that there are aluminum poles that LES can screw into the ground. Those do not require anchoring. That would be a relatively cost effective means to put in temporary lighting that would be more appropriate for the Mall.

Commissioners discussed the need for a specific time frame in which the temporary fixtures would be replaced, the inappropriateness of wooden poles and cobra head lights. They also reviewed past discussions with LES with regard to lights that are appropriate for the Environs.

With no one further appearing, the public hearing was closed.

Searcy moved approval of the certificate for temporary lights on Centennial Mall, seconded by Kilgarin.

Motion failed 0-5; Kilgarin, Nelson, Hewitt, Searcy and Todd voting 'no'; Laging and O'Donnell absent.

Nelson moved that this item be put to sub-committee for further study with representation from Planning, LES, University, and Parks to talk about alternatives to the proposal based on the Commission's discussion that can be brought back to Commission at its next meeting, seconded by Todd.

Motion carried 5-0; Kilgarin, Nelson, Hewitt, Searcy and Todd voting 'yes'; Laging and O'Donnell absent.

Miscellaneous -

Zimmer stated that Pershing is showing continuing interest in having a discussion on the ongoing Centennial Mall planning and have indicated that they would like a vehicle for talking to the members of the Commission. Searcy asked Zimmer to begin the necessary process to form a subcommittee for that purpose.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:53 am.